

## SURGICAL INFORMATION

On your pets' surgery day, we require you to review and sign an Authorization Form— which may ask you to choose optional services. We require a phone number(s) where you can be reached immediately on surgery day. Failure to be reached on the day of the procedure may result in postponement of the surgery.

### **The night before your pet's surgery:**

- Withhold all food and treats after 8:00pm.
- Withhold water after 10:00pm.
- If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections, withhold the morning doses unless otherwise instructed by the doctor.

Please make arrangements for your pet to be dropped off between 8:00am – 9:00am on the morning of the scheduled surgery, unless other arrangements have been made with our office in advance. At time of drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions/concerns you may have. Our veterinary nurse will escort your pet to the surgical prepping area to wait for their surgery. If indicated, our nurse will collect a blood sample and run pre-anesthetic tests prior to surgery. If any questions arise, the doctor may contact you at the number on the Authorization Form. After your pet's procedure, we will call to give you an update and to give you an idea of when your pet may be discharged.

When you arrive to take your pet home, the receptionist will bill you out and the veterinary nurse will go over all discharge orders verbally and give you a written copy. If you do not understand any part of these instructions, please do not hesitate to ask them to go over them one more time. Remember, our team knows surgery can be an anxious time and we are always happy to answer any and all questions concerning the procedure. We look forward to serving you and your pet on surgery day and for years to come.

## PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD TESTING INFORMATION

Our greatest concern is the well being of your pet. Before putting your pet under anesthesia, we routinely perform a full physical examination. We also highly recommend and sometimes require that a Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile be performed on pets undergoing anesthesia to maximize patient safety. The Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile helps alert our surgeon to the presence of dehydration, anemia, diabetes, kidney, and liver disease that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may not be detected without a pre-anesthetic profile thus not allowing for the most appropriate and safest anesthetic regime to be administered. The Authorization Form you will sign on your pet's surgery date will offer pre-anesthetic blood work. Our in-house Pre-Anesthetic profile includes:

- PCV (Anemia)
- BUN and Creatinine (Kidney)
- ALKP and ALT (Liver)
- Glucose (Sugar)
- Total Protein (Dehydration)

We have selected tests that give the doctors a suitable overview of healthy patients. However, if a patient is in their senior years or has other additional health concerns, a full senior profile can be scheduled several days ahead of the procedure at the owner's request.

We realize surgery and anesthesia can be scary, and we attempt to make surgery day as safe and comfortable as possible for all involved. The physical examination and blood work done prior to any surgical procedure allows us to best minimize anesthetic and surgical risks and maximize patient safety. If you have any questions or hesitations about the scheduled procedure, please do not hesitate to call us to discuss any aspect of the upcoming procedure.

# SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM

## Anesthetic Procedures

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medications/injectable and/or inhalant anesthetics to achieve optimum levels of anesthesia that are safe for your pet. For most procedures, your pet is anesthetized and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea or wind pipe). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids into the lungs. Anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic, Isoflurane, which is very safe and is not metabolized by the body. This allows us to have more control over anesthetic depth and it is less irritating to the airways.

## Monitoring

Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways. First, a veterinary nurse is with your pet continuously from beginning of anesthesia to recovery, monitoring your pet's pulse and respiratory rate. Second, we have equipment that monitors your pet's heart rate and oxygen levels throughout their procedure.

## Additional Considerations

Our clinic strongly believes in compassionate, quality, medical care for our patients. As a result, some patients will be prescribed pain management and/or antibiotics after surgery. Additional information will be given at discharge. It is important for you to understand that there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications anytime these procedures are performed. We strive to take the highest quality care of your pet and take all the added precautions you allow to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet to us.